

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, SS, MA

SUBJECT: SAHARA: US TO THE FORE

1. SUMMARY: OFFICIAL GOA JOURNAL BLASTS MOROCCO FOR ITS
US TIES. END SUMMARY

2. OFFICIAL FLN WEEKLY REVOLUTION AFRICAINE IN MOST

RECENT EDITION (FEB 6-12, 1976) DEVOTES 16 PAGE CENTER-
FOLD ARTICLE TO "DOSSIER" ON TIES BETWEEN
"MOROCCO AND AMERICAN IMPERIALISM". INTRODUCTION STRESSES
THEME THAT MOROCCO CONSTITUTES "STRATEGIC BASE" FOR
IMPERIALISTS AND PROVIDES "POWERFUL MILITARY COMPLEX" WHICH ALREADY
USED IN ATTEMPTS TO LIQUIDATE "PALESTINIAN, VIETNAMESE,
ALGERIAN, AND ANGOLAN REVOLUTIONS". ARTICLE ASSERTS
THAT BASES SO IMPORTANT THAT "LARGEST AMERICAN AID IN
AFRICA" GOES TO MOROCCO, RISING FROM 14MILLION DOLLARS
IN 1975 TO 30 MILLION DOLLARS IN 1976.

3. "DOSSIER" ITSELF MAKES FOLLOWING KEY POINTS;

A. MOROCCAN PEOPLE HAVE GLORIOUS HISTORY OF OPPOSITION

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TO ALL ATTACKS BY FOREIGN INVADERS ON THEIR LIBERTY AND

INDEPENDENCE AND CONSTITUTE "GREAT NATION". PRESENCE OF FOREIGN BASES IN INCOMPATIBLE WITH MOROCCAN SOVEREIGNTH, DAMAGES MOROCCAN NATIONAL INTEREST AND PRESTIGE, AND SOILS MEMORY OF VICTIMS WHO SPILLED THEIR BLOOD FOR MOROCCAN INDEPENDENCE.

B. TESTIMONY OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM AND LANG OF DOD IN 1970 BEFORE SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE DEMONSTRATES THAT US MILITARY PRESENCE IN MOROCCO IS REALITY AND SERVES US INTERESTS.

C. KEY IS TRIANGLE OF BASES OF KENITRA, SIDI YAHIA, AND BOUKNADEL WHICH "REPRESENTS POWERFUL MILITARY COMPLEX".

D. BASES USED BY US IN CONGO, BIAFRA, 1956 ATTACK AGAINST EGYPT, VIETNAM, LIBYAN-PALESTINIAN 1970 CONFLICT, AND ALL ARAB/ISRAELI CONFLICTS.

E. BASES OUT OF MOROCCAN CONTROL, THUS DEALING "ENORMOUS BLOW TO MOROCCAN PRESTIGE AND ITS NATIONAL INTEREST".

F. BASES NOT ONLY USED MILITARILY BUT TO REINFORCE WASHINGTON POITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY. US USING MOROCCO AGAINST NON-ALIGNED GROUP, ARAB LEAGUE, OAU, AND MAGHREB COHESION. SPECIFICALLY, AMERICAN INTERVENED IN 1963 ALGIERS-RABAT CONFLICT, WERE IMPLICATED IN MILITARY PLOTS AGAINST HASSAN 1971-1972 AND USE BASES FOR INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION.

G. PENTAGON REGARDS MOROCCAN BASES AS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT. AMERICANS NOW WANT NAVAL BASE AT EL-HUCEIMA MILITARY HELICOPTER BASE AT TETOUAN, SUBMARINE BASE AT SIDI IFNI. IN SHORT, ARTICLE CONCLUDES US BASES IN MOROCCO NOW TAKING ON NEW DIMENSIONS FOR PENTAGON IN LIGHT AGGRAVATION OF SITUATION IN MEDITERRANEAN.

H. LINKS WITH US AND US MILITARY BASES ON MOROCCAN TERRITORY PREVENT MOROCCO FROM ASSUMING ITS NATURAL PLACE IN NON-ALIGNED WORLD, DOWNGRADES MOROCCAN PRESTIGE IN AFRICA, PARALYZES IDEA TO MAKE MEDITERRANEAN ZONE OF PEACE, AND JEOPARDIZES ARAB-AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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MOROCCAN CAMPAIGN AGAINST CUETA AND MELILLA. AS LONG AS US BASES IN MOROCCO REMAIN TO SERVE US AT TIMES SUCH AS WHEN DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER THREATENED INVASION OF OIL PRODUCERS, QUESTION WILL REMAIN POSED BY ARAB COUNTRIES AND OAU: MOROCCO, "ARE YOU WITH US OR AGAINST US?" ARTICLE CONCLUDES "IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO AVOID THIS SCABROUS QUESTION -- IT IS NECESSARY TO LIQUIDATE PENTAGON MILITARY BASES AND BY

THAT TO SERVE NATIONAL INTEREST AND TO RAISE PRESTIGE
AND DIGNITY OF MOROCCO IN THE EYES OF THE ENTIRE WORLD."

4. ARTICLE BEING POUCHES ADDRESSEES.PARKER

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